

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Samir Patel on October 8, 2010.

In the claims:

45. (Currently amended) A method of inducing bone formation in a mammal comprising administering an effective amount of a fusion polypeptide consisting of a protein transduction domain and an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of ~~an~~ the amino acid sequence consisting of SEQ ID NO 1, ~~an~~ the amino acid sequence consisting of SEQ ID NO 2, ~~an~~ the amino acid sequence consisting of SEQ ID NO 4, ~~and an~~ the amino acid sequence consisting of SEQ ID NO 7, and the amino acid sequence consisting of SEQ ID NO 8.

47. (Currently amended) A method of inducing proteoglycan synthesis in a mammal comprising administering an effective amount of a fusion polypeptide consisting of a protein transduction domain and an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of ~~an~~ the amino acid sequence consisting of SEQ ID NO 1, ~~an~~ the amino acid sequence consisting of SEQ ID NO 2, ~~an~~ the amino acid sequence consisting of SEQ ID NO 4, ~~an~~ the amino acid sequence consisting of SEQ ID NO 7, and ~~an~~ the amino acid sequence consisting of SEQ ID NO 8, wherein the proteoglycan concentration prior to said administering step is less than said concentration post said administering step.

49. (Currently amended) A method of inducing osteoblast differentiation in a progenitor cell, the method comprising administering to the progenitor cell an effective amount of a fusion polypeptide consisting of a protein transduction domain and an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of ~~an~~ the amino acid sequence consisting of SEQ ID NO 1, ~~an~~ the amino acid sequence consisting of SEQ ID NO 2, ~~an~~ the amino acid sequence consisting of SEQ ID NO 4, ~~an~~ the amino acid sequence consisting of SEQ ID NO 7, ~~an~~ the amino acid sequence consisting of SEQ ID NO 8,

wherein the differentiated osteoblast concentration prior to said administering step is less than said concentration post said administering step.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Michele K. Joike whose telephone number is (571)272-5915. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F, 10:00-6:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Christopher Low can be reached on (571)272-0951. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Michele K. Joike/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 1636

Michele K. Joike
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 1636